

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 286  
By Brooks (Shelby)

A RESOLUTION to recognize the Reverend J. D. Jamerson on  
the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who in their years of work have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend J. D. Jamerson is one such estimable person who has served with distinction for 36 years as the Pastor of Mount Gilliam Missionary Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, a native of Hinds County, Mississippi, Reverend Jamerson is the son of Reverend and Mrs. Odie Jamerson; the second son of eight children, he developed a love of the Lord and his Christian family at an early age; and

WHEREAS, as a young man, he answered the call of duty to his country as one of the many gallant citizen-soldiers who protected and ensured the freedom of this nation and our world; and

WHEREAS, after receiving his discharge from the United States Army, he returned to Memphis; in March 1946, he married Ms. Rosa Bulter and joined St. Luke Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, a short while later, he was called to the ministry and was subsequently ordained; and

WHEREAS, understanding the immense value of education, he studied at the Hooks School of Photography in 1950 and at Henderson Business College in 1952; and

WHEREAS, in 1955, Reverend Jamerson was called to assist Reverend E. Bates at Mount Gilliam Missionary Baptist Church; once there, he also served as President of the Choir and Director of the Baptist Training Union; and

WHEREAS, in 1969, he was elected Pastor of the congregation, following the untimely death of Reverend Bates; and

WHEREAS, always seeking to further his own knowledge so that he might better serve in the Kingdom, Reverend Jamerson studied at and graduated from the Brewster School of Theology and Campbell School of Religion; and

WHEREAS, he has also shared his vast wisdom and experience with numerous young men who have been called to the ministry and has thus earned recognition as the "Father of the Gospel"; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Jamerson is blessed with a great and loving heart for God's work and a magnetic personality, and his congregation has benefited from his wisdom and love in innumerable ways for the past 36 years; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary tenure, he distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and an exceptional asset to his community; he has served as a Probation Officer and has been active in Christian Social Workers, Orange Mound Concerned Citizens Inc., Orange Mound Soup Kitchen, and numerous other benevolent organizations; and

WHEREAS, renowned as a religious leader of the greatest ability, he has served as Treasurer of the Tennessee Regular State Convention, Director General of the Tennessee Regular State Congress, Secretary of the Trustee Board of Campbell School of Religion, and Moderator of the Shelby County District Association; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Jamerson also astutely served as the Financial Secretary for the Memphis Baptist Ministerial Alliance, Director of the Tennessee Regular Baptist Missionary and Educational State Convention Congress of Christian Education, Treasurer of the Tennessee Regular Baptist Missionary and Educational State Convention, and is a former President of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Jamerson is strongly committed to the highest ideals of family values; he is most grateful for the tremendous love and companionship that he shares with his beloved wife, Rosa, with whom he recently celebrated their 59<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary; Mrs. Jamerson is a veteran barber and has served in the Douglass Community; an exceptional

speaker, she has worked as a Juvenile Court Probation officer for over 25 years; together, the Jamersons are the proud parents of Janice, Joyce, Michael, and the late Jerome Jamerson; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Jamerson's outstanding career as a dynamic and compassionate Pastor and an active civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on God's grace, his dedication to the time-honored values of hard work and common sense, and his uncommon ability to relate to people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Reverend J. D. Jamerson will be taking a much deserved retirement on April 10, 2005; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Reverend Jamerson has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues and his flock; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we extend to Reverend J. D. Jamerson our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors and thank him for his unwavering dedication to God, the members of Mount Gilliam Missionary Baptist Church, and his community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.